

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN PAYTON AT HIS RETIREMENT AS PRESIDENT OF TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I would like to request the House's attention today to pay recognition to the distinguished career of Dr. Benjamin Franklin Payton, who will be retiring this year from his position as the 5th president of Tuskegee University, a position he has held for the past 29 years.

It goes without saying that Dr. Payton has led a highly successful career serving the students, faculty and community of Tuskegee University. As President, his many accomplishments at the University will certainly be remembered long after his departure. Among his many milestones include the launching of Tuskegee University's first Ph.D. programs in Materials Science and Engineering and Integrated Biosciences; his involvement in the reconstruction and renovation of the entire campus; and his success in leading and exceeding a \$150 million Capital Campaign. Dr. Payton's work at Tuskegee University, coupled with his previous accomplishments, has earned him many honors and awards including First Place winner of the Harvard Billings Prize, 1957; South Carolinian of the Year, 1972; an appointment by President Ronald Reagan to the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development; and under President George W. Bush, he was appointed to lead the Task Force on Agricultural and Economic Development to Zaire.

All of us across Macon County and East Alabama have been touched by the visionary leadership of Dr. Benjamin Franklin Payton. He will be missed in the community and at the University he has led for so long. On behalf of us all, I congratulate him for his distinguished service.

KENNETH BANKS

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Mr. Kenneth Banks for his outstanding business success, community involvement, and impact on Maryland's economic growth and prosperity.

Mr. Banks graduated from Adelphi University in 1974; Mr. Banks has been in the construction field since 1975. He was a foreman and project manager for a contractor before launching his own firm in 1980. Mr. Banks' high standard of excellence, emphasis on professional expertise, and dependability has had a powerful impact on the community. He has worked with numerous community organizations including the American Heart Association, where he chaired the 25th Anniversary Heart Ball.

Mr. Banks is a member of the Greater Baltimore Executive Committee and serves as a member of the Board on the Chesapeake Crescent Commission, chaired by the Gov-

ernors of Maryland and Virginia and the Mayor of Washington, D.C. He is also a member of the board of the Maryland Affordable Housing Trust and the United Way of Central Maryland. He is a past member of the Board of Trustees at Adelphi University, his alma mater, and is an Executive-in-Residence at Morgan State University's Earl G. Graves School of Business and Management Honors Program.

In 2009, Mr. Banks won several awards for business results and community focus including The Greater Baltimore Committee Mayor's Business Recognition Award, the Award of Excellence given by Associated Builders and Contractors, the Professional Achievement and Community Service Award by the Baltimore City Community College Foundation, the Entrepreneur Award by the Black Engineer of the Year Global Competitiveness Conference, and the Future 50 Award by SmartCEO Publishing.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Mr. Kenneth Banks for his outstanding work and community involvement. Through his visionary leadership and stellar business principals, Baltimore continues to grow and flourish.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF SAM HOUSTON

SPEECH OF

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1103, honoring the anniversary of the birth of a great Texan, Sam Houston. Due to a conflict I was unable to cast my vote in support of this bill yesterday.

Sam Houston was a larger than life character who left a lasting impact on the history of Texas. Already an established statesman—as first a member of this body and Governor of the state of Tennessee—Sam Houston's leadership was essential in Texas gaining independence from Mexico and later in achieving statehood. Sam Houston led the Texas Revolutionary forces in the Texas War of Independence and was instrumental in achieving victory over at the Battle of San Jacinto.

The only person to have been the governor of two different states, Sam Houston also was an inaugural Senator from Texas.

I have long been impressed with Sam Houston. In my office, I proudly display two portraits of Houston.

Sam Houston's legacy is important to the people of Texas' Eighth congressional district. A much larger than life statue of Sam Houston greets all who come to Huntsville—the east Texas town where Sam Houston spent his golden years and where his name lives on at Sam Houston State University. At 67 feet tall and 25 tons, the steel and concrete statue aptly named “A Tribute to Courage” is a testament to how the Huntsville community continues to cherish Sam Houston.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to celebrate the life of Sam Houston. For all his accomplishments, the people of the great state of Texas remain forever in his debt and will continue to honor his memory and public service on this anniversary of his birth.

HONORING KANSAS CITY, KANSAS, POLICE CHIEF SAMUEL F. BRESHEARS

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, Kansas City, Kansas, Chief of Police Samuel F. Breshears was honored as Kansas' recipient of the prestigious 2010 Clarence M. Kelley Meritorious Service Award at the spring conference of the Kansas/Western Missouri Chapter of the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy Association in Wichita, Kansas, on Friday, April 9th, 2010.

Chief Breshears' dedication to the law enforcement profession, and to the men and women who make up the heart and soul of the calling of law enforcement, is reflected in his commitment to seeking the best possible training for them. Throughout his career he has taken great interest in making it possible for officers get the best contemporary training, acknowledging that training and policy development are practical tools in fighting crime. He has also continued the organizational philosophy of community policing and recognizes that aggressive law enforcement must remain sensitive to the needs of the community. This philosophy is a benchmark to his core police officer values of establishing and maintaining competent, dedicated and exemplary law enforcement officers.

Since 1999, Chief Breshears has served with distinction on the Kansas Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training, (KSCPOST), a position he was appointed to by the Governor of the State of Kansas. This body is responsible for certifying Kansas Law Enforcement Officers. Further, Chief Breshears has shown his respect for and life-long appreciation of the law enforcement field by continuing to expand his knowledge and training in the law enforcement discipline, such as having been invited to attend and participate in the FBI-sponsored National Executive Institute.

In addition to his graduate-level academic achievements and being a graduate of the FBI National Academy in 1994, graduating in the 176th session, he has been a model of community service and volunteerism serving on numerous boards and committees throughout the years. His service record reflects his dedication to an exemplary career in law enforcement: High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program Executive Board; FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force Executive Board; FBI HARCFL Executive Board; Kansas City Metro Chiefs and Sheriffs Executive Board; Emerging Threat Analysis Capability Executive Board; and Kansas Peace Officers Association/Governor at Large.

The singularly distinctive accomplishments of Chief Breshears culminate a long and distinguished career in the service of the citizens of Kansas City, Kansas, and reflect great credit upon himself and the Kansas City, Kansas, Police Department, and the Unified Government of Wyandotte County, Kansas. Madam Speaker, I know that you join with all members of the House of Representatives in acknowledging his distinguished service to our community.